

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS, ZFF4 SEOUL ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, UN

SUBJECT: KOREA IN 28TH UNGA

REF: (A) USUN 4322; (B) SEOUL 7291

1. DEPT APPRECIATES VIEW AND ANALYSIS EXPRESSED REFTELS.

WE AGREE THAT AN IMPASSE IS LIKELY IN UNGA SINCE EITHER FRIENDLY OR HOSTILE RESOLUTIONS COULD POSSIBLY MUSTER SIMPLE MAJORITY BUT NEITHER COULD ATTRACT 2/3 VOTE WHICH MOST LIKELY WILL BE NECESSARY IN PLENARY. MOREOVER WE COULD LOSE OUT ENTIRELY SINCE WE CANNOT BE SURE OF GAINING PRIORITY FOR FRIENDLY RES AND IT THUS MIGHT NOT COME TO A VOTE.

2. DEPT AGREES THAT WE SHOULD NOW CONSIDER CHANGES IN TACTICS DESIGNED TO INCREASE OUR VOTING STRENGTH IN GA,
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BOTH TO ASSIST US IN PROCEDURAL VOTES WHICH COULD BE KEY

TO OUR SUCCESS OR FAILURE ON SUBSTANCE, AND TO INCREASE THE CREDIBILITY OF OUR VOTING POSITION AS BACKDROP TO ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH PRC OR OTHER HOSTILE COSPONSORS.

3. WE NOTE THE ROK IS ANXIOUS TO INSURE ADOPTION OF RES THIS YEAR WHICH COULD SERVE TO AVOID ASSEMBLY DISCUSSION IN FUTURE AND IS PREPARED TO DROP OPERATIVE PARA 3 OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON MEMBERSHIP. WE NOTE FURTHER THAT ROK ALSO IS ANXIOUS TO BEGIN DISCUSSION IN WORKING GROUP

LOOKING TOWARD EVENTUAL SATISFACTORY MERGER OF FRIENDLY AND HOSTILE RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED WITH MINIMUM OF POLEMICS IN FIRST COMMITTEE. AS POSTS AWARE, PRIME US OBJECTIVE IN KOREA DEBATE HAS BEEN TO AVOID ABRASIVE CONFRONTATION IN UNGA AND WE BELIEVE ROK POSITION IS IMAGINATIVE, FLEXIBLE AND CONSISTENT WITH OUR INTERESTS.

4. WE BELIEVE THEREFORE WE SHOULD PROMPTLY RESPOND TO ROKG, BOTH IN SEOUL AND IN NEW YORK, TO STATE USG NOW WILLING TO:

- A) DROP MEMBERSHIP PARA FROM FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, AND
- B) CONSULT ON THIS BASIS WITH PRC.

5. YOU MAY EXPLAIN WE AGREE THAT DROPPING MEMBERSHIP PARA NOW APPEARS NECESSARY TO INCREASE ATTRACTIVENESS OF OUR POSITION TO FENCE-SITTING UN DELS, AND INCREASE OUR MARGIN OF SAFETY IN POSSIBLE FIRST COMMITTEE VOTES ON PRIORITY, AGAINST THE HOSTILE RES, FOR OUR RES, OR FOR AMENDMENTS TO HOSTILE RES. THIS IN TURN WOULD PUT US IN A MORE ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION FOR AN APPROACH TO THE OTHER SIDE ON WAYS TO DEFUSE ISSUE IN GA.

6. YOU MAY INDICATE TO KOREANS AND CORE COSPONSORS THAT WHILE WE WILLING TO DROP PARA 3 NOW WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO TABLE COMPLETELY REVISED RESOLUTION UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. WE WOULD HOWEVER EXPECT TO INDICATE TO PRC THAT WE PREPARED TO WORK ON THIS BASIS FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION AVOIDING CONFRONTATION. WE WOULD ADD THAT WE BELIEVE THAT IF PRESSED TO VOTE OUR TEXT AS REVISED BY DROPPING THE PARA ON MEMBERSHIP WOULD PROVE ATTRACTIVE TO A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY OF UN MEMBERS.

7. FYI. WE WOULD NOT AT THIS POINT INDICATE TO OTHER SIDE ANY WILLINGNESS TO MOVE ON UN COMMAND ISSUE BEYOND LANGUAGE OF PRESENT OPERATIVE PARA 4 OF FRIENDLY RES. WE

WOULD AWAIT THEIR REACTION TO DROPPING MEMBERSHIP PARA
BEFORE CONSIDERING WHETHER ANY FURTHER STEPS SHOULD BE
TAKEN ON OTHER ISSUES, INCLUDING POSSIBLE "MERGER" OF TWO
RESOLUTIONS.

8. FOR USUN. SUGGEST YOU SCHEDULE WORKING GROUP MEETING
FOR NOV. 5. IF AMB HABIB UNABLE SEE FONMIN KIM NOV. 4
YOU SHOULD CONSULT IN ADVANCE WITH ROK UN MISSION. KISSINGER

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